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Conservation Commission Minutes 07/19/2012

Arlington Conservation Commission Minutes July 19, 2012

Mr. Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. in the second floor conference room of the Town Hall Annex. Present were Nathaniel Stevens, David White, Chris Naylor, Michele Durocher, and Catherine Garnett of the Commission. Charles Tirone, Curt Connors and Eileen Coleman of the Commission, were not present. Also present were Teresa DeBenedictis, Wayne Chouinard and Steve Ricci.

7:45 pm - Commission Business:

Naylor/White motioned to approve the 6/21 minutes with edits; motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Beckwith drafted a letter to proximate property owners regarding the unpermitted dock at the end of **Addison St** and it's under review by the board.

Ms. DeBenedictis, DPW, presented the coordination of this season's water chestnut harvesting at the **Arlington Reservoir**. The funding for a new ramp has been obtained, but the construction will not occur before this year's harvesting work is to commence (proposed to start on 7/20/2012). The harvester will enter the water via the park in Lexington and exit there in roughly one week's time. A front end loader will remove the plants from the harvester in approximately the same location where the ramp will be installed. The loader will carry the plants down the pathway to the concrete curtain of the emergency spillway to dewater the plants. Erosion controls (probably straw bales) will be installed at the end of the curtain to contain the plants until they are ready for removal. Trucks will haul away the dessicated plant matter after a few weeks. Ms. Garnett gave Ms. DiBenedictis specifications on mats to run trucks over grassy or muddy ground around the spill way and the path to the spillway.

8pm – **Abbreviated Notice of Intent** – 10 Devereaux, small dock

Mr. Ricci presented his proposal to install a small aluminum dock along his shoreline to Spy Pond. The board held a site walk this morning and reviewed the location, which is already an open access point.

Naylor/Garnett motioned to approve the work as proposed; motion passed unanimously.

8:15pm - Discussion - Hurd field porous parking lot, DEP File No. 91-241

Mr. Chouinard presented the latest revision to the parking lot design that included stockpiling locations and erosion control details. The work should start about August 6 and take as long as approximately 4-6 weeks, but as little as two weeks.

White/Naylor motioned to approve the plans; motion passed unanimously.

Other Commission Business:

The Commission held a site walk on 7/17/12 to discuss the fence on conservation land on **Hemlock St.** The board decided to draft a letter of response to the homeowner of 17 Hemlock to seek resolution of this matter.

Mr. White reported that the small mall at the intersection of Lowell and Park Streets has dumped plant debris into **Noname Brook**. Ms. Beckwith will contact the property manager to direct them to clear the debris.

Mr. Chouinard reported the Mystic River Watershed Association is installing a water elevation gage on **Mill Brook** at Mystic Street. They are also hoping to install a flow meter.

Ms. Beckwith asked the board if they would like to include the conservation land at **Cookes Hollow** in the list of town parks that hold events such as weddings. This property is quite small, so only small groups should be considered for this location, fewer than 20 people. The board felt strongly that Ms. Beckwith should not be asked to use her limited hours to administer the management of the events. If someone else will coordinate and manage this, then it might be acceptable.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.

Respectfully submitted, Corinna Beckwith Commission Administrator